

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 03138 060440Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 PM-05 NSC-05 SS-15 DEAE-00  
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OMB-01 /101 W  
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R 051535Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO USICA WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
SECSTATE WASHDC 1829

UNCLAS CARACAS 3138

FOR: AR

E.O. 11652: N/A  
SUBJ: VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA DENOUNCES "TRANSNATIONAL NEWS MONOPOLY"

1. ACCORDING TO STORY IN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE "DAILY JOURNAL", VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA GUIDO GROSCORS, LONG A CRITIC OF INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCIES, CRITICIZED THE "TRANSNATIONAL NEWS MONOPOLY IN THE UNITED STATES" FOR ITS REPORTING ON THE COCAINE TRAFFIC IN COLOMBIA.

2. ACCORDING TO THE DJ STORY, GROSCORS SAID: "ONE MUST BE WARY OF THIS REPORT BECAUSE THE TRANSNATIONAL NEWS AGENCIES ARE TOO ACCUSTOMED TO DEFORMING OR OBSCURING THE TRUE REALITIES OF OUR COUNTRIES." THE DJ SAID THE REMARKS WERE MADE FOLLOWING A MEETING BETWEEN GROSCORS AND PRESIDENT PEREZ.

THE STORY SAID ONE VENEZUELAN REPORTER ASKED GROSCORS IF, IN VIEW OF THE "60 MINUTES" EPISODE AND LAST YEAR'S NEW YORK TIMES STORY LINKING PEREZ TO CIA PAYMENTS, THERE WAS A U.S. NEWS CAMPAIGN AGAINST VENEZUELAN AND COLOMBIAN LEADERS.

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GROSCORS DECLINED TO USE THE TERM "CAMPAIGN," BUT WENT ON TO SAY: "...I WOULD SAY THAT CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN WITH THE MANIPULATIONS OF TRANSNATIONAL NEWS AGENCIES, BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED IN THE PAST THAT MUCH INFORMATION SPREAD BY THESE NEWS AGENCIES HAS CONTRIBUTED TO A DEFORMED VIEW OF OUR COUNTRIES."

5. ACCORDING TO THE DJ, GROOSCORS ADMITTED THAT THERE WAS AN ACTIVE DRUG TRADE IN COLOMBIA, BUT SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS DOING EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO STOP IT AND THAT NOT ONLY COLOMBIA, BUT ALL LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES HAVE SOME PROBLEM WITH DRUG TRAFFICKING.

6. THE STORY SAID THAT GROOSCORS "EMPHASIZED THAT HE HAD NOT MEANT TO CRITICIZED THE U.S. GOVERNMENT OR ITS CITIZENS. I DON'T THINK THAT ONE SHOULD CONFUSE THE GOVERNMENT OR THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES WITH THE INTERESTS OF THE NEWS MONOPOLY BASED IN THE UNITED STATES'..."

KEY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INFORMATION MEDIA, DRUG TRAFFIC, CORRUPTION, AMBASSADORS, PRESS CONFERENCES, ALLEGATIONS, MONOPOLIES  
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**Review Markings:**  
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